GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:373
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006
BAN ON NUCLEAR TESTS
Satpathy Shri Tathagata;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US asked India to ban nuclear tests permanently as part of Indo-US nuclear deal as per the draft agreement received in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a)-(b) Discussions are ongoing between India and the United States on a bilateral civil nuclear energy cooperation agreement. Among the elements in the draft proposed by the United States, there was a reference to cooperation being discontinued were India to detonate a nuclear explosive device.

(c) India has conveyed to the United States that such a provision has no place in the proposed bilateral agreement and that India is bound only by its commitment in the July 18, 2005 Joint Statement to continuing a unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing.